Loss suffered by NCCF

996. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the Years 1979-80 due to the carelessness of the then Branch Manager (Delhi) with many private parties|contractors N.C.C.F. suffered a loss over Rs. 40 lakhs; and

(b) it so, whether the enquiry against the official responsible for this loss has been completed and if not, by when it is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (b) It has been reported by the NCCF that its Delhi branch had suffered a loss of Rs. 55.17 lakhs during 1979-80. The audit report for that years dose not establish that the loss was due to the carelessness of the then Branch Manager Delhi and as such the question of any enquiry dose not arise.

Loss to NCCF

997. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 24.09 lakhs is outstanding from West Bengal state Essential Commodities Corporation, Calcutta on account of supplies of rice made by N.C.C.F. from Andhra Pradesh since 1982-83;

(b) whether N.C.C.F. had been incurring loss due to interest at the rate of Rs. 3.71 lakhs per annum on the outstanding amounts from the above corporation; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to recover the above amount and what action has been taken against the then Regional Manager (East), Calcutta due to whose carelessness the Federation has suffered this loss?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) No, sir. The total amount of Rs. 35.02 lakhs stands recovered/adjusted.

(b)and (c) Do not arise.

Welfare schemes for minorities

998. SHRI N.E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sent any direct communication to the district collectors in the mater of welfare schemes for minorities and their implementations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the State Ministers have protested against sending direct communication to district Collectors; and

(d) if so, Government's recastion thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) and (b) A circular letter intended for the District Magistrates explaining inter alia the various aspects that should be kept in view for effective implementation of the P.M.'s 15-Point Programme for the welfare of the minorities has been sent to Chief Secretaries of the respective State Governments for appropriate action. A copy of the letter is placed at Annexure. (See Appendix CXLVIII Annexure No. 35].

(c) No protest has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

Protest by seed producers and research institutions against new seeds import policy

999. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the indigenous producers and research institutions have protested against the new seeds import policy an.

that it virtually neutralises the efforts put in by the Indian Scientists in the development of advanced seed verieties suitable for Indian Conditions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Flood relief in Delhi

1000. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families affected by recent floods in Delhi and the steps taken to provide them temporary shelter;

(b) whether any financial assistance has also been given;

(c) if so, the amount of assistance to each family and mode of its distribution;

(d) whether any assistance from Prime Minister's relief fund were also sanctioned for relief work; and

(e) if so, the amount thereof and the steps taken to distribute the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The Delhi Administration has reported that 8122 families were affected by recent floods. Temporary shelter by way of tents were provided to them.

(b) and (c) An ex-gratia cash payment of Rs. 500/- was given by Delhi Administration to each affected family.

(d) and (e) An amount of Rs. 10 lakhs, sanctioned from the Prime Minister's Relief Fund has been utilised for undertaking various relief measures such as payment of ex-gratia, provision of temporary shelters, fodder etc.

Wrigleys Chewingugum company

1001. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Wrigleys Chewingugum company also proposed to enter India to set up a fruit processing venture;

(b) whether Government are keen that multinationals enter the food processing area to acquire raw materials like fruit pulp, juice concentrates at low prices; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that multinationals purchase and export fruit and vegetable products at low prices for sale overseas as branded products ensuring low export earnings for India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No such proposal has been received.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

Experience of Pepsi-Co in Horticulture

1002. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pepsi-Co deal is meant to improve the Horticulture and change the pattern of cropping in Punjab;

(b) what is the experience of Pepsi-Co in Horticulture and where are they doing work on horticulture; and

(c) where do they have a fruit processing plant, and under what name is the processed fruit sold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) It is expected that the project will help to improve development of horticulture and assist in changing the cropping pattern in Punjab.

(b) Pepsi-Co have improved productivity of potatoes in Mexico and Brazil.